

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11

INTRODUCED BY WINDY BOY, BERGREN, BRANAE, CAMPBELL, DOWELL, ELLIOTT, HANSEN,
KITZENBERG, MATTHEWS, PARKER, PEASE, TESTER, WILLIAMS, WISEMAN, WANZENRIED

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING COOPERATION BETWEEN AND AMONG STATE AND FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATIONS AND TRIBAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS TO FACILITATE ONGOING RESEARCH, SHARING OF RESEARCH SCIENTISTS, AND EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS IN ADDRESSING CRITICAL ISSUES CONCERNING DELETERIOUS INSECTS, PESTICIDE USE, LIVESTOCK DISEASE, NOXIOUS WEEDS, AND IRRIGATED AND DRYLAND CROPPING SYSTEMS; AND URGING SUBMISSION OF A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE PROGRESS OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH EFFORTS AND THE SHARING OF EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION BETWEEN THE STATE AND MONTANA TRIBES AND BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATIONS.

WHEREAS, critical issues concerning deleterious insects, pesticide use, livestock disease, noxious weeds, and irrigated and dryland cropping systems affect all Montana agricultural interests, both tribal and nontribal; and

WHEREAS, the state through its University System agricultural research stations, Montana tribes through tribal agricultural research programs, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture through its agricultural research service programs seek to address these important agricultural issues; and

WHEREAS, cooperation between agricultural research stations at both the state and federal levels and between state, federal, and tribal entities regarding ongoing research, sharing of research scientists, and educational efforts would help provide a unified approach toward solving these critical issues and strengthen overall efforts on a statewide basis; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural research program at the Fort Belknap Reservation would provide a logical tribal vehicle for cooperation with state and pertinent federal research programs to study insects and pesticides, the agricultural research program at the Fort Peck Reservation would provide a logical tribal vehicle for cooperation with state and pertinent federal research programs to study livestock issues, and the agricultural research program at the Rocky Boy Reservation would provide a logical tribal vehicle for cooperation with state and pertinent federal research programs to study noxious weeds; and

1 WHEREAS, irrigated and dryland cropping system issues would be an appropriate research focus for
2 cooperation between state and pertinent federal research programs and all tribal agricultural research programs;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, sharing of research and information between state and federal agricultural research
5 stations, particularly the U.S. Department of Agriculture agricultural research laboratories in Sidney and Miles
6 City, would be beneficial to statewide efforts; and

7 WHEREAS, because a portion of both state and tribal agricultural research funding comes from federal
8 sources, it is appropriate that the federal government be made aware of Montana's efforts to enhance
9 cooperation between and among state and federal agricultural research stations and tribal agricultural research
10 programs and that the Montana Congressional Delegation be encouraged to seek increased federal funding for
11 all Montana agricultural research efforts, including funding for joint state, federal, and tribal partnerships that
12 address Montana's water resources and irrigated and dryland cropping systems; and

13 WHEREAS, a report to the Montana Legislature regarding cooperative research efforts and the sharing
14 of educational information between the state and Montana tribes and between state and federal agricultural
15 research stations would help the Legislature identify areas of greatest immediate concern, and available funding
16 sources to address those concerns, in a timely and cost-effective manner.

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18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
19 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

20 That Montana agricultural research stations, including federal agricultural research facilities in Sidney
21 and Miles City, be encouraged to share research and information between stations in order to more effectively
22 address agricultural issues of regional and statewide concern.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the state agricultural research stations be encouraged to share
24 ongoing research, research scientists, and educational efforts with tribal agricultural research programs in order
25 to help provide a unified approach toward solving critical agricultural issues and strengthening efforts regarding
26 deleterious insects, pesticide use, livestock disease, noxious weeds, and irrigated and dryland cropping systems
27 on a statewide basis.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Congressional Delegation be urged to seek increased
29 federal funding for all Montana agricultural research efforts, including funding for joint state, federal, and tribal
30 partnerships that address Montana's water resources and irrigated and dryland cropping systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Montana agricultural research stations, through the Montana University System, be encouraged to provide a systemwide report to the 60th Legislature regarding cooperative research efforts and the sharing of educational information between and among state and federal agricultural research stations and tribal agricultural research programs in order to help the Legislature identify areas of greatest immediate concern, examine available funding sources to address those concerns, and consider the potential for cooperative state, federal, and tribal agricultural research pilot programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the natural resource committee of each tribal government in Montana, to the director of each state and federal agricultural research station in Montana, to the Director of the Montana Department of Agriculture, to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, and to the members of the Montana Congressional Delegation.

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